

REMARKS

Drawings

Fig. 6 has been objected to under 37 CFR 1.84(l) and Fig. 8-10 have been objected to under 37 CFR 1.84(m) by Draftsperson.

Replacement sheets for Fig. 6 and 8-10 are attached. Fig. 6 has been redrawn wherein the lines, numbers and letters are uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable and black. Figs. 8-10 have been redrawn to display shaper distinct lines and eliminated solid black shaded areas.

Replacement sheet for Fig. 7 is also provided. In Fig. 7, the reference number 174 is herewith re-positioned in reference to the shaft shown and reference number 172 is herewith added in reference to the rod shown. The shaft 174 and rod 172 are disclosed in the paragraph starting on page 19, line 6 of the application.

Furthermore, replacement sheets for Figs. 1-5, and 11-13 are also included for consistency in style with replacement sheets for Figs. 6-10. No new matter has been introduced to the replacement sheets.

Amended Specification

The paragraphs starting on page 19, line 6, and on page 19, line 25, of the application have been amended. The reference numbers 172 and 174 shown in the above paragraphs are herewith amended to correctly refer to the rod and shaft, respectively, as shown in amended Fig. 7. No new matter has been introduced in the amended paragraphs.

Claims Rejection – 35 USC 103

Claims 1-28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeSousa et al. (5,937,516) in view of Irie (6,216,512).

Claims 20-28 are herewith cancelled.

Claim 1 is herewith amended to more concisely claim Applicants' invention. The disclosure for the elements recited in amended claim 1 can be at least found in the DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT section of the application, as well as in Figs. 6-11. Amended claim 1 now recites a radial drive mechanism further comprising of a shaft supported coaxially by the axial drive shaft, radially inboard of the first and second rollers, for guided movement along the spin axis; an actuator for moving the shaft along the drive shaft coaxial to the spin axis; and a translation mechanism operable between the shaft and rollers for translating the axial motion of the shaft into radial motion of the rollers.

Fig. 6 presents an embodiment of the radial drive mechanism having an external actuation device, as the hollow shaft 71 is external to the axial drive shaft 104. Fig. 7 presents an embodiment of the radial drive mechanism having an internal actuation device, as the shaft 174 is internal to the hollow drive shaft 204.

Neither DeSousa et al. nor Irie et al., separately or together, suggests or teaches a shaft supported coaxially by an axial drive shaft for guided movement along the spin axis, an actuator for moving the shaft along the drive shaft coaxial to the spin axis, and a translation mechanism operable between the shaft and roller for translating the axial motion of the shaft into radial motion of the rollers. The invention disclosed in Irie et al comprises multiple actuators, such as pressure cylinders, that act on transmitting

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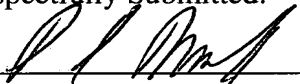
members that in turn engage support members through tapered surfaces for the radial movement of the rollers.

Applicants respectfully submit that currently amended claim 1 patentably distinguishes over DeSousa et al. in view of Irie. Claims 2-19 ultimately depend upon independent claim 1. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-19.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-19, and a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited. If it is determined that prosecution of this case can be advanced by telephone, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

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